

**MEDIA RELEASE**



**Attention: News Director  
For Immediate Release  
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**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
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Western District of Kentucky**

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**NORTONVILLE MAN SENTENCED FOR ESCAPE**

*– Previously sentenced to 7 years*

David L. Huber, United States Attorney for the Western District of Kentucky, announced today that **JOSEPH DAVID HOPKINS**, age 59, of 51 West Pine Street, Nortonville, Kentucky, in Hopkins County, **was sentenced** to 3 years and 1 month imprisonment in United States District Court, Louisville, Kentucky, for the crime of escape. Thomas B. Russell, Judge, United States District Court, also sentenced **Hopkins** to 3 years supervised release following incarceration. **There is no parole in the federal judicial system.**

**Hopkins** pled guilty and admitted that on December 22, 2005, he escaped from a facility where he was being held in custody by direction of the Attorney General of the United States by virtue of having been convicted of a federal offense. **Hopkins** had been sentenced in January 2001, to 7 years in prison, after having been convicted of interstate domestic violence, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 2261(a)(2). That charge arose from an incident which **Hopkins** assaulted his estranged wife and forced her to drive to Evansville, Indiana, where he again assaulted her. She was able to talk him into taking her back to Princeton, Kentucky, where she escaped from him when he stopped at a gas station. She was later admitted to a hospital with a fractured jaw.

**Hopkins** had been transferred by the federal Bureau of Prisons to the Warren County Jail,

as he neared completion of his sentence, to participate in a half-way house program. He had been given a furlough to seek employment, but was under an order to return to the facility at the end of the day. He failed to return. He was later arrested by officers of the Hopkins County Sheriff's Office, after they received information that he was hiding in the Nortonville area.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Larry Fentress, and it was investigated by the Hopkins County Sheriff's Office and the United States Marshal's Service.

**- END -**

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